(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education 1986 as revised in 1992 states the resolution of the Government to provide free and compulsory education of satisfactory quality to all children upto 14 years of age before we enter the twenty first century. The Programme of Action (PCA) 1992, to the policy, provides the broad frame work to achieve these policy objectives. Within the framework, the Government has initiated a number of Centrally Sponsored Programme which include Operation Blackboard, Teacher Education, Non Formal Education, and Mid-day Meals Programme.

Cost escalation in gas the based urea project in Oman

268. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2041 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th December, 1995 and state:

(a) whether the cost of the Ammonia/ Urea project is now estimated to be 1127 million dollar as compared to 897 million dollar as per PFR;

(b) justification for this escalation in cost in view of the reply to part [e] of the above referred Unstarred Question;

(c) whether KRIBHCO Board had earlier resolved that operation and maintenance contract of the project would be executed by RCF and KRIBHCO; and

(d) whether the same has been waived now, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) As per the Detailed Feasibility Report, the cost of the Oman India Fertilizer Project is now estimated at US$ 1106 million. The earlier estimate of US$ 897 million was based on preliminary studies. The escalation in the estimated project cost is mainly on account of provision of reserves for debt servicing and increase in financing fees, project management expenses and capitalised interest.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) KRIBHCO and RCF have accepted the proposal of Oman Oil Company that the operation and maintenance [O&M] of the fertilizer plant may be managed by the Joint Venture Company [JVC] while KRIBHCO and RCF second the O&M personnel to the JVC under a Personnel Supply Agreement. KRIBHCO and RCF have also agreed to provide technical services to the JVC under a Technical Services Agreement. KRIBHCO and RCF consider this arrangement to be more advantageous than an O&M contract.

National Plan for Girl Child

269. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any National Plan of Action for the survival, protection and development of the girl child in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also launched any specific scheme to raise the status of the girl child in the country, particularly in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) A Scheme for Adolescent

Girls is under implementation since 1991-92 in selected 507 blocks as an integral part of the Integrated Child Development Services. The objectives of the scheme is given in the attached statement.

Statement

National Plan of Action for Girl Child

Details of the National Plan of Action for the SAARC Decade of the Girl Child 1991-2000 AD

The National Plan of Action lays down gender specific goals in the following three major developmental areas:

1. *Survival and Protection of the Girl Child and Safe Motherhood:—*

Prevention of female foeticide and infanticide, reduction of infant mortality, under-5 child mortality, malnutrition, iron, vitamin and iodine deficiency among under-5, diarrhoea deaths among under-5, maternal mortality, control of vaccine preventable diseases, achievement of 100% immunisation coverage, elimination of gender disparties in mortality rate and in feeding practices, and universal access to safe drinking water.

2. *Overall development of the Girl Child*

Universal access to basic education and completion of Primary Education by 80% of Primary Schools age children, reduction of adult illiteracy with emphasis on female literacy in the age-group of 15-20 years; diversified secondary education with emphasis on developmental/ vocational/marketable skills; working towards the elimination of child labour and the undervaluation and invisibility of the girl child.

3. *Special Protection for Vulnerable Girl Children in Difficult Circumstances and belonging to Special Groups*

Extension of special protection to girl children in difficult circumstances arising out of natural calamities and man made disasters and to those in socially and economically deprived groups.

The Plan of Action also lays down action points of Advocacy Support, Policy support, programme interventions and resource mobilisation.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS

1. To improve the nutritional and health status of girls in the age group of 11—18 years;
2. To provide to them the required literacy and numeracy skills through the non-formal stream of education, to stimulate a desire for more social exposure and knowledge and to help them improve their decision making capabilities;
3. To train and equip the adolescent girls to improve upgrade home-based skills;
4. To promote awareness of health, hygiene, nutrition and family welfare, home management and child care, and to take all measures as to facilitate their marrying only after attaining the age of 18 years and if possible, even later.

Violation of Patents act by Indian Drug Companies

270. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that certain multi-national drug companies have brought to Government's notice piracy of their products by Indian companies and their marketing in gross violation of the Patents Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the companies involved in the duplication of formulations and their false labelling and illegal marketing in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) No such report has been received by the Government.